

50th Anniversary Commemoration

A Statistical Portrait

Atlanta Region
Regional Director
George Grandy, Jr.

Assistant Regional Directors
Reginald Bigham
Katrina Carter

Data Dissemination Specialist
Marilyn Stephens
marilyn.e.stephens@census.gov

United States™
Census
Bureau

MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM

AUGUST 28, 1963

LINCOLN MEMORIAL PROGRAM

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The National Anthem | <i>Led by Marian Anderson.</i> |
| 2. Invocation | <i>The Very Rev. Patrick O'Boyle, Archbishop of Washington.</i> |
| 3. Opening Remarks | <i>A. Philip Randolph, Director March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.</i> |
| 4. Remarks | <i>Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, Stated Clerk, United Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A.; Vice Chairman, Commission on Race Relations of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.</i> |
| 5. Tribute to Negro Women
Fighters for Freedom | <i>Mrs. Medgar Evers</i> |
| Daisy Bates | |
| Diane Nash Bevel | |
| Mrs. Medgar Evers | |
| Mrs. Herbert Lee | |
| Rosa Parks | |
| Gloria Richardson | |
| 6. Remarks | <i>John Lewis, National Chairman, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.</i> |
| 7. Remarks | <i>Walter Reuther, President, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, AFL-CIO; Chairman, Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO.</i> |
| 8. Remarks | <i>James Farmer, National Director, Congress of Racial Equality.</i> |
| 9. Selection | <i>Eva Jessye Choir</i> |
| 10. Prayer | <i>Rabbi Uri Miller, President Synagogue Council of America.</i> |
| 11. Remarks | <i>Whitney M. Young, Jr., Executive Director, National Urban League.</i> |
| 12. Remarks | <i>Mathew Ahmann, Executive Director, National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice.</i> |
| 13. Remarks | <i>Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.</i> |
| 14. Selection | <i>Miss Mahalia Jackson</i> |
| 15. Remarks | <i>Rabbi Joachim Prinz, President American Jewish Congress.</i> |
| 16. Remarks | <i>The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference.</i> |
| 17. The Pledge | <i>A Philip Randolph</i> |
| 18. Benediction | <i>Dr. Benjamin E. Maya, President, Morehouse College.</i> |

"WE SHALL OVERCOME"

Program Page 2

Statement by the heads of the ten organizations calling for discipline in connection with the Washington March of August 28, 1963:

"The Washington March of August 28th is more than just a demonstration.

"It was conceived as an outpouring of the deep feeling of millions of white and colored American citizens that the time has come for the government of the United States of America, and particularly for the Congress of that government, to grant and guarantee complete equality in citizenship to the Negro minority of our population.

"As such, the Washington March is a living petition—in the flesh—of the scores of thousands of citizens of both races who will be present from all parts of our country.

"It will be orderly, but not subservient. It will be proud, but not arrogant. It will be non-violent, but not timid. It will be unified in purposes and behavior, not splintered into groups and individual competitors. It will be outspoken, but not raucous.

"It will have the dignity befitting a demonstration in behalf of the human rights of twenty millions of people, with the eye and the judgment of the world focused upon Washington, D.C., on August 28, 1963.

"In a neighborhood dispute there may be stunts, rough words and even hot insults; but when a whole people speaks to its government, the dialogue and the action must be on a level reflecting the worth of that people and the responsibility of that government.

"We, the undersigned, who see the Washington March as wrapping up the dreams, hopes, ambitions, tears, and prayers of millions who have lived for this day, call upon the members, followers and wellwishers of our several organizations to make the March a disciplined and purposeful demonstration.

"We call upon them all, black and white, to resist provocations to disorder and to violence.

"We ask them to remember that evil persons are determined to smear this March and to discredit the cause of equality by deliberate efforts to stir disorder.

"We call for self-discipline, so that no one in our own ranks, however enthusiastic, shall be the spark for disorder.

"We call for resistance to the efforts of those who, while not enemies of the March as such, might seek to use it to advance causes not dedicated primarily to civil rights or to the welfare of our country.

"We ask each and every one in attendance in Washington or in spiritual attendance back home to place the Cause above all else.

"Do not permit a few irresponsible people to hang a new problem around our necks as we return home. Let's do what we came to do—place the national human rights problem squarely on the doorstep of the national Congress and of the Federal Government.

"Let's win at Washington."

SIGNED:

Mathew Ahmann, *Executive Director of the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice.*

Reverend Eugene Carson Blake, *Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Race Relations of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America*

James Farmer, *National Director of the Congress of Racial Equality.*

Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., *President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.*

John Lewis, *Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.*

Rabbi Joachim Prinz, *President of the American Jewish Congress.*

A. Philip Randolph, *President of the Negro American Labor Council.*

Walter Reuther, *President of the United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, AFL-CIO, and Chairman,*

Industrial Union Department, AFL-CIO.

Roy Wilkins, *Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.*

Whitney M. Young, Jr., *Executive Director of the National Urban League.*

In addition, the March has been endorsed by major religious, fraternal, labor and civil rights organizations. A full list, too long to include here, will be published.

WHAT WE DEMAND*

1. Comprehensive and effective civil rights legislation from the present Congress—without compromise or filibuster—to guarantee all Americans

access to all public accommodations
decent housing
adequate and integrated education
the right to vote

2. Withholding of Federal funds from all programs in which discrimination exists.

3. Desegregation of all school districts in 1963.

4. Enforcement of the Fourteenth Amendment—reducing Congressional representation of states where citizens are disfranchised.

5. A new Executive Order banning discrimination in all housing supported by federal funds.

6. Authority for the Attorney General to institute injunctive suits when any constitutional right is violated.

7. A massive federal program to train and place all unemployed workers—Negro and white—on meaningful and dignified jobs at decent wages.

8. A national minimum wage act that will give all Americans a decent standard of living. (Government surveys show that anything less than \$2.00 an hour fails to do this.)

9. A broadened Fair Labor Standards Act to include all areas of employment which are presently excluded.

10. A federal Fair Employment Practices Act barring discrimination by federal, state, and municipal governments, and by employers, contractors, employment agencies, and trade unions.

*Support of the March does not necessarily indicate endorsement of every demand listed. Some organizations have not had an opportunity to take an official position on all of the demands advocated here.

*The 50th Anniversary of the
"I Have a Dream" Speech
& the March on Washington
for Jobs and Freedom: Aug. 28, 1963*

On Aug. 28, 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. spoke to more than 200,000 people from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. His famous "I Have a Dream" speech and the march were key moments in the American Civil Rights Movement, before the landmark legislation securing voting, housing and employment rights for all Americans regardless of race. To mark the anniversary, the U.S. Census Bureau has gathered key statistics that measure changes in some characteristics of the black population to date.

Some of the statistics are drawn on years other than 1963 because the data were not available. For additional information, view the Census Bureau's website: census.gov.

Note: The analysis is limited to the black population because of limited historical data for all racial and ethnic groups. Unless otherwise noted, the reference to the 2012 black population in this publication is to respondents who said they were one race (black) or more than one race (black plus other races).

*The 50th Anniversary of the
"I Have a Dream" Speech
& the March on Washington
for Jobs and Freedom: Aug. 28, 1963*

Since MLK's Speech

Some changes in the nation's African-American population since Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech on Aug. 28, 1963:



Percentage voting in U.S.



Percentage of African-Americans graduating high school



Number of African-American college students



United States[™]
Census
Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Source: U.S. Census Bureau's Profile America Facts for Features http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/

United States[™]
Census
Bureau

IMAGES of the DAY



Roy Wilkins, A. Philip Randolph, and Walter P. Reuther leading the March on Washington, August 28, 1963. Photo courtesy of the National Archives.

There are 30,315 actors in the U.S. today; 10.6% or 3,200 are Black or African American.



Actors Sidney Poitier, Harry Belafonte, and Charlton Heston at the March on Washington, August 28, 1963. Photo courtesy of National Archives.

IMAGES of the DAY

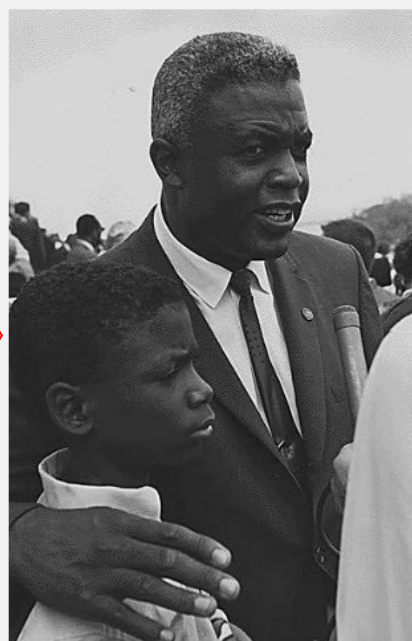


*Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.
at the March
on Washington on
March 28, 1963.*

*Photo courtesy
National Archives.*

There are
432,320
clergy in the
U.S.; 9.5% or
41,280 are
Black or
African
American.

There are
237,480 athletes,
coaches, umpires
and other related
personnel in the
U.S. today; 8.2%
or 19,515 are
Black or African
American.



**Baseball great, Jackie
Robinson, with his son at
the March on Washington,
August 28, 1963**



1963 & 2012 Then & Now

POPULATION

1963

20,255,067
*The total estimated
Black population*

10.7%
*The estimated
percentage of the
nation's population
that was Black*

9,779,461
Black Males

10,475,606
Black Females

67,063
*Number of Blacks
that were age 85
and higher*

2012

44,456,009
*The total estimated
Black population*

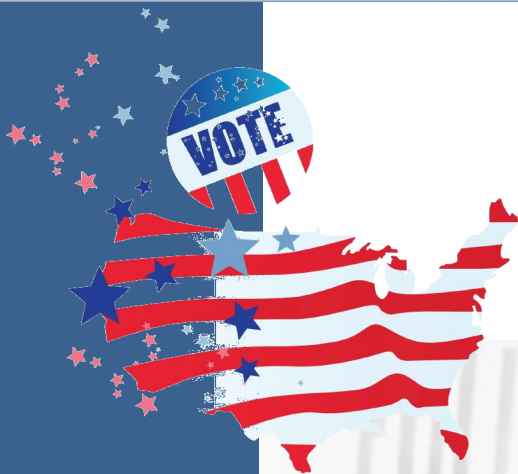
14.2%
*The estimated
percentage of the
nation's population
that was Black*

18,563,970
Black Males

20,365,349
Black Females

382,122
*Number of Blacks
that were age 85
and higher*

1964 & 2012 Then & Now



VOTING

1964

58.5%

*The percent of
the total Black
population 18
and over that
voted in the
presidential
election*

69.3%

*The percent of
the total U.S.
population 18
and that voted
in the
presidential
election*

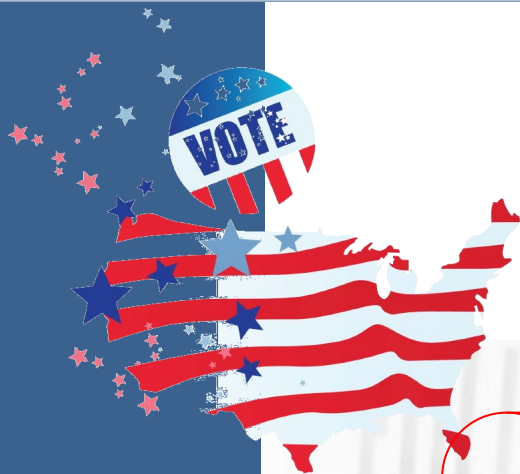
2012

62%

*The percent of
the total Black
population 18
and over that
voted in the
presidential
election*

56.5%

*The percent of
the total U.S.
population 18
and over that
voted in the
presidential
election*



VOTING

1970 & 2011 Then & Now

ELECTED OFFICIALS

1970

1,469

The number of Black elected officials. 1970 was the first year this kind of information was collected.

2011

10,500

The estimated number of Black elected officials.

Source: Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies



1964 & 2012

Then & Now

EDUCATION

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

1964

25.7%

Percentage of blacks age 25 and over who completed at least four years of high school.

2.4 million

Number of blacks 25 and over with at least four years of high school.

2012

85.0%

Percentage of blacks age 25 and over who completed at least four years of high school.

20.3 million

Number of blacks 25 and over with at least a high school diploma.



EDUCATION

1964 & 2012

Then & Now

COLLEGE GRADUATES

1964

234,000

Number of black undergraduate college students.

3.9%

Percent of blacks age 25 and over who completed at least four years of college.

365,000

Number of blacks who had at least a bachelor's degree.

2012

2.6 million

Number of black undergraduate college students in 2011 — this is more than 10 times as many as 1964.

21.2%

Percent of blacks age 25 and over who completed at least four years of college.

5.1 million

Number of blacks who had at least a bachelor's degree.



1970 & 2011

Then & Now

HOUSING

1970

41.6%

Homeownership
rate for blacks —
1970 is the
earliest this
information is
available for
race.

15.3%

Percentage of
U.S. renter
occupied
housing units
that were
black
households.

2011

43.4%

Homeownership
rate for blacks.

19.3%

Percentage of
U.S. renter
occupied
housing units
that were
black
households.



1963 & 2011 Then & Now

INCOME

1963

\$22,266

(in 2011 dollars)

The median family income for blacks was 55 percent of the median income for all American families.

\$25,826

(in 2011 dollars)

Median income of Black men who worked full time, year-round.

\$14,651

(in 2011 dollars)

Median income of Black women who worked full time, year-round.

2011

\$40,495

The median family income for the black-alone population was 66 percent of the median income for all American families.

\$40,273

Median income of single-race black men who worked full time, year-round.

\$35,146

Median income of single-race black women who worked full time, year-round.



POVERTY

1966 & 2011
Then & Now

1966



41.8%

Poverty rate for blacks.
Nationally, the poverty rate for all races was 14.7 percent.

Note: 1966 is the closest year these statistics are available to the historic speech.

2011



27.6%

Poverty rate for single-race blacks.
Nationally, the poverty rate for all races was 15 percent.

PLEASE NOTE

**FREE of
CHARGE**

**If you would like to host a *census data workshop*,
webinar or a *lunch 'n learn session*, OR, if you
need statistics for any reason:**

**school, k-12; college; business plans;
proposals; reports, or others,
send your requests to Marilyn Stephens,
at marilyn.e.stephens@census.gov**

**Your household may be randomly selected to
participate in one or more of the census surveys
listed below. Please cooperate with the census
field representatives by completing the
questionnaire. The information you provide to us is
confidential, by law. We value your privacy and
protect the confidentiality of information we
receive from you and your family.**

American Community Survey

American Housing Survey

Consumer Expenditure Survey

Current Population Survey

National Crime Victimization Survey

National Health Interview Survey

Survey of Income and Program Participation

**The Atlanta Regional Office of the United States Census
Bureau is responsible for census operations in seven
states: Alabama; Florida; Georgia; Louisiana; Mississippi;
North Carolina; and, South Carolina.**